

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A packaging material using suitable for use as a substrate for packaging bags or packaging containers employed in heat treatment or thermal sterilization processes, said packaging material comprising a film laminate in which a heat sealing agent with a low melting point is ~~applied to~~ coated on a prescribed zone of an oriented film made of a synthetic resin, a cutting line is cut in the oriented film in the form of a solid or broken line passing through the zone coated with the heat sealing agent, and a cast film made of a synthetic resin and having heat sealing properties is affixed to the oriented film, wherein when the packaging material is subjected to stress acting in a direction perpendicular to the cutting line in the zone coated with the heat sealing agent, the cast film extends and expands in the direction of the stress and when the cast film is incapable of further extension and expansion, a small hole forms therein at both ends of the cutting line, each of said small holes being capable of elastically expanding and shrinking.

2. (Previously Presented) A packaging material using a film laminate in which a release agent is applied to a prescribed zone of an oriented film made of a synthetic resin, a cutting line is cut in the oriented film in the form of a solid or broken line passing through the zone coated with the release agent, and a cast film made of a synthetic resin and having heat sealing properties is affixed to the oriented film.

3. (Previously Presented) The packaging material according to claim 1, in which a thermally insulating flexible sheet is placed on a surface of the oriented film made of a synthetic resin and affixed thereto partially or over the entire surface.

4. (Currently Amended) A packaging material ~~using~~ suitable for use as a substrate for packaging bags or packaging containers employed in heat treatment or thermal sterilization processes, said packaging material comprising a film laminate in which a cutting line is cut in the form of a solid or broken line in a cast film made of a synthetic resin and having heat sealing properties and a thermally insulating flexible sheet is placed on a surface of the cut film and affixed thereto partially or over the entire surface, wherein when the packaging material is subjected to stress acting in a direction perpendicular to the cutting line, the cast film extends and expands in the direction of the stress and forms an opening in the thermally insulating flexible sheet, the opening being capable of elastically expanding and shrinking.

5. (Previously Presented) A packaging material comprising a cover using the packaging material according to claim 1 and provided with an excess portion and a container having an opening on which the cover is heat-sealed, the cover having a larger area than the area of the opening of the container and the excess portion of the cover dangles from an upper end of the container and is adhesively bonded to the container at an end portion thereof.

6. (Previously Presented) A packaged product in which processed food, various food products, various foodstuffs, medical instruments, or containers are tightly sealed with the packaging material according to claim 1.

7. (Previously Presented) The packaging material according to Claim 2, in which a thermally insulating flexible sheet is placed on the surface of the oriented film made of a synthetic resin and affixed thereto partially or over the entire surface.

8. (Previously Presented) A packaging material comprising a cover using a film laminate in which a release agent is applied to a prescribed zone of an oriented film made of a synthetic resin, a cutting line being cut in the oriented film in the form of a solid or broken line passing through the zone coated with the release agent, a cast film made of a synthetic resin and having heat sealing properties affixed to the oriented film, a cover provided with an excess portion, and a container having an opening on which the cover is heat-sealed, the cover having a larger area than the area of the container opening and the excess portion dangles from an upper end of the container and is adhesively bonded to the container at an end portion thereof.

9. (Previously Presented) A packaging material comprising a cover using a film laminate in which a cutting line is cut in the form of a solid or broken line in a cast film made of a synthetic resin and having heat sealing properties, a thermally insulating flexible sheet placed on a surface of the cast film and affixed thereto partially or over the entire surface, a cover provided with an excess portion, and a container having an opening on which the cover is heat-sealed, the cover having a larger area than the area of the container opening and the excess portion dangles from an upper end of the container and is adhesively bonded to the container at an end portion thereof.

10. (Previously Presented) A packaged product in which processed food, various foodstuffs, medical instruments, or containers are tightly sealed with a packaging material using

a film laminate in which a release agent is applied to a prescribed zone of an oriented film made of a synthetic resin, a cutting line being cut in the oriented film in the form of a solid or broken line passing through the zone coated with the release agent, and a cast film made of a synthetic resin and having heat sealing properties affixed to the oriented film.

11. (Previously Presented) A packaged product in which processed foods, various foodstuffs, medical instruments, or containers are tightly sealed with a packaging material using a film laminate in which a cutting line is cut in the form of a solid or broken line in a cast film made of a synthetic resin and having heat sealing properties and a thermally insulating flexible sheet placed on a surface of the cast film and affixed thereto partially or over the entire surface.

12. (Previously Presented) A packaged product in which processed foods, various foodstuffs, medical instruments, or containers are tightly sealed with a packaging material comprising a cover using a film laminate in which a release agent is applied to a prescribed zone of an oriented film made of a synthetic resin, a cutting line cut in the oriented film in the form of a solid or broken line passing through the zone coated with the release agent, a cast film made of a synthetic resin and having heat sealing properties affixed to the oriented film, a cover provided with an excess portion, and a container having an opening on which the cover is heat-sealed, the cover having a larger area than the area of the container opening and the excess portion dangles from an upper end of the container and is adhesively bonded to the container at an end portion thereof.

13. (Previously Presented) A packaged product in which processed food, various foodstuffs, medical instruments or containers are tightly sealed with a packaging material comprising a cover including a film laminate in which a

cutting line is cut in the form of a solid or broken line in a cast film made of a synthetic resin and having heat sealing properties, a thermally insulating flexible sheet placed on a surface of the cast film and affixed thereto partially or over the entire surface, the cover being provided with an excess portion, and a container having an opening on which the cover is heat-sealed, the cover having a larger area than the area of the container opening and the excess portion dangles from an upper end of the container and is adhesively bonded to the container at an end portion thereof.